

LED Steering Committee

Minutes of July 12, 2007 Conference Call

Present:

Members: Greg Weeks, Bob Brown, John Dorrer, Colleen Flannery, Erika McEntarfer, Wande Reweta,

Guests: Patti Becker, John Haltiwanger, George Putnam, Gary Yakimov

Agenda Items and Discussion

Retirement Announcement

1. Henry Jackson joined the call for the first few minutes to announce his retirement from the State of Illinois. Greg Weeks stated his thanks on behalf of the Steering Committee and said Henry would be greatly missed. Others concurred and Henry left the call.

Training

2. George Putnam stated that he was in Florida getting ready to deliver the LED training to LMI staff. Bob Brown suggested the model be tested in Florida and quickly rolled out. There was a consensus among the group that the LMI Institute should get involved in the delivery of this training.

Research Access

3. John Haltiwanger from the University of Maryland provided background on research access to LED data. In late 2003 they worked with all (18) states that were active at the time on an agreement so that data could be used in the secure Research Data Center environment.
4. If the research was of a multi-state nature, additional state clearance was not required.
5. If the research was of a single state nature, additional clearance from that state was needed.
6. 3 projects have been done so far

7. John Haltiwanger stated that they would like to extend the agreement with the additional states that have since joined the program. They will have conversations with each individual state.
8. Greg Weeks asked for any objections, there was additional discussion and clarification. John Haltiwanger stated this is exactly what the Bureau of Labor Statistics is currently doing with states.
9. The request to extend the agreement to all current LED states was passed unanimously.

Steering Committee Planning Session

10. Patti Becker announced that the next marketing retreat would occur between Sep.10 and Sep.12. Greg Weeks stated that this was a very good idea and would be very energizing for the committee.
11. George Putnam suggested that they need a frank discussion about whether the steering committee can realize the important goals and objectives. He suggested they needed to find a way to dedicate the time to achieve the goals and objectives, and that he hasn't sensed momentum within the committee to realize the objectives in a meaningful way.
12. Patti responded to George that his comments are on target for an interview process that will occur before the retreat. CSW will facilitate the retreat again, and in preparation they will be interviewing Census staff regarding "what has and hasn't worked" regarding the marketing plan. Patti suggested that CSW is interested in interviewing state members as well if they are willing.
13. There was discussion regarding state participation in the interviews, and all state members agreed that it was very important to be included in the interview process. Gary Yakimov stated that CSW will plan to interview all steering committee members during the month of August.

Visits to Other States

14. Patti commented that they are considering how best to reach out to other states, including inviting them to a pre-session or post-session around the marketing retreat. Steering Committee members felt that it would not be appropriate to invite them to the marketing retreat and they are unlikely to want to travel to hear about the program.
15. Patti suggested that Jeremy is thinking about visiting each of the remaining states and wants Greg and John to participate. Greg suggested he would be happy to help (and John had left the meeting by this point.) Greg will follow up with Jeremy to discuss further.

2008 Workshop

16. Patti announced that the dates for the 2008 workshop will be March 5 through March 7. She announced it would be hosted at the new Census Building in Suitland, MD, and guests would stay in Crystal City, VA or Alexandria, VA. She asked members to forward names of people to invite to her.

Technical Report

17. George Putnam discussed the audit report for IL. He suggested that other states begin to move ahead with the audits, and that a programmer would need to be required for the wage record audit report.
18. There was additional discussion about the audit report and what was needed for the steering committee states to move forward as per the agreement. George agreed to send out an e-mail to each LMI Director in those states as to what was needed.
19. Greg Weeks thanked George for his work in this very important endeavor.